

SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT FACT SHEET

Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Bureau of Substance Abuse Services

This fact sheet contains information about the impact of alcohol and other drug use in the City of Westfield. Admission data were reported to the Bureau of Substance Abuse Services (BSAS) Substance Abuse Management Information System in FY 2004.

Residents of the City of Westfield

Characteristics of Admissions

In FY 2004, there were 102,226 admissions to licensed substance abuse treatment services in all of Massachusetts; 0.4% (406) of these admissions reside in the City of Westfield.¹ **Please note that these statistics represent only admissions, and can represent a figure larger than the actual number of individuals.** In FY 2004, admissions to all residential and outpatient substance abuse treatment services from the City of Westfield reported the following characteristics:

- 73% were male and 27% were female.
- 56% were between the ages of 21-39.
- 90% were white non-Latino, and 7% were Latino.¹
- 62% were never married, 17% were married, and 20% reported not to be married now.
- 25% had less than high school education, 50% completed high school, and 26% had more than high school education.
- 40% were employed.
- 10% were homeless.
- 35% had prior mental health treatment.

Primary Substance of Use

At admission clients identify a “primary drug” of use which is the substance currently causing them the most problems. Table 1 compares the proportional distribution of primary drugs in Massachusetts with that for the City of Westfield.

Table 1					
Primary Drug by District and State FY 2004					
	Alcohol	Heroin	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack
City	53%	30%	5%	3%	3%
State	43%	39%	5%	4%	2%

Substances Used in Past Year

Upon entering treatment, each client is asked to report ALL substances used in the past year (12 months) prior to admission. Admissions frequently report using more than one substance within the year. The use of more than one psychoactive substance, such as alcohol and marijuana, is referred to as ‘polydrug’ or ‘polysubstance’ use.

¹ To protect client confidentiality, statistics representing clients under 18 years of age and other racial categories have been omitted from this fact sheet.

Table 2 shows ALL substances which clients reported using in the year prior to admission, as well as the prevalence of injection drug users (IDU's), individuals who use a needle to ingest cocaine, crack, heroin or another drug to get high.

Table 2 Number of admissions Reporting Substance Used: FY 1996 – FY 2004							
City of Westfield							
	Total	Alcohol	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack	Heroin	IDU
FY '96	494	442	159	77	103	54	33
FY '97	553	501	183	103	96	61	36
FY '98	676	595	202	104	79	91	50
FY '99	536	458	163	83	79	88	46
FY '00	568	467	174	110	68	124	79
FY '01	547	459	151	99	94	148	89
FY '02	597	484	151	89	77	169	111
FY '03	501	408	146	95	84	145	90
FY '04	460	363	147	132	91	154	106

Heroin and Injection Drug Use

Figure 1 below shows the proportional increases in all admissions in the City of Westfield and the proportional increase in admissions reporting heroin and injection drug use, a factor driving increases in HIV.

